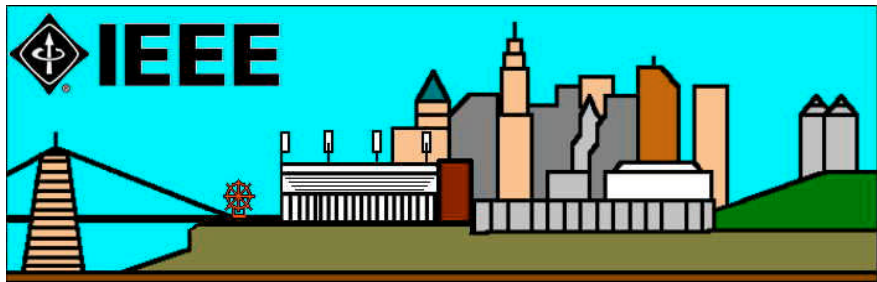


IEEE CINCINNATI
SECTION
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2007



FEBRUARY MEETING

Presentation/Tour at Harris Corporation:
The Worldwide Digital Transition
and what is happening to terrestrial TV in the US
(comparison of Cable, Satellite, IPTV, etc)

DATE: Thursday, February 22, 2007

PLACE : Harris Broadcast Division
4393 Digital Way
Mason, Ohio 45040 (Mapquest or Google Local can give directions to Harris)

AGENDA: Presentation from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Tour from 8:00 p.m. to approximately 9:00 p.m.

NOTE: THIS IS NOT A DINNER MEETING!!!!

Refreshments, however, will be available at 6:30 pm for those attending the meeting

RESERVATIONS: **The tour is limited to the first 50 reservations.** Please call the Cincinnati Section Voice Mailbox at **513-629-9380**, by **Noon, Tuesday, February 20, 2007** if you plan to attend. Please leave your Name, IEEE Member Number, and a daytime telephone number. You can also make a reservation by e-mailing Charlie Nash at cnash@ieee.org.

Members attending the meeting are asked to use the side entrance from the parking lot. The building entrance in front will be locked. Members will be asked to do a sign in and out sheet at the entrance.

PE CREDITS: Depending on the subject matter, attendance at IEEE Cincinnati Section Meetings now qualifies the attendee for Professional Development Hours towards renewal of Professional Engineers Licenses. Required documentation will be available following the meeting! The Section Meetings also provide a great opportunity to network with fellow engineers in the area.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER: The Speaker will be Mr. John Hall who is Senior Manager, Harris Corporation Broadcast Communications Division, and Manager, Programs (Radio and TV). John has interfaced with customers in the US as well as Europe, Africa, Asia and South America.

Mr. Hall has over 25 years experience managing programs at Harris, Jacobs Engineering, and General Electric (Aircraft Engines in Cincinnati and Space Division in East Windsor New Jersey). He has managed Foreign Military Sales (of F16 engines) programs for the US Department of Defense, nuclear clean-up projects at Fernald, OH and Oak Ridge, TN, Base Re-alignment Closure (BRAC) programs for the US Army and US Air Force, Space Shuttle Programs and Metrological satellite programs for NASA.

Mr. Hall is currently responsible for the Radio and TV programs business for the Transmission Business Units at Harris and has completed programs for the US Government, large commercial and foreign national Government customers including Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, China, Romania, Lebanon, Yemen, Egypt, India, Italy, and Qatar. Mr. Hall's program management responsibilities include Customer support, subcontractor management, cost, schedule and scope management. Each project under his direct management have completed on schedule and under budget.

In the last several years, Mr. Hall has been involved in international transmission modernization programs for radio and TV, following the democratization of Eastern Europe, and the digital revolution in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He has witnessed the change in TV broadcasting first hand and sees great change ahead for the delivery of video to consumers.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

by Brian Resnick, Section Chair

The January meeting was a big success. Tom Hortel of VentureForward gave a great presentation on the tools and methods of systematic innovation. In attendance were a number of Professional Engineers earning hours towards their professional development requirements. We also kicked off the 2007 Ambassador Program. Ambassadors are Life, Fellow, and/or Senior Members who want to help increase attendance by writing personal invitations to members who seldom attend. In exchange for encouraging five new contacts, the Section will buy dinner for the Ambassador. We sent ambassador invitations to about 122 members. If we missed you, and you are interested in becoming an Ambassador, please contact Brian.Resnick@IEEE.org.

Speaking of dinners, the Executive Committee voted to reduce the cost of dinner. For advanced reservation meals at Raffel's, the price is now set at \$10.00 for members, students, guests, and non-members alike.

The February meeting will be held at Harris Corporation. This is the third year in a row that we have held the Engineer's Week meeting at Harris. It has always been a good meeting and this one should be no exception. John Hall will be presenting "The Worldwide Digital Transition" and will describe what is happening to terrestrial TV in the US. Harris Corporation will also be providing a tour of their facility. Professional Engineers should note that we will distribute professional development certificates and keep a list of names. Remember, there is no dinner associated with this meeting. There are many restaurants nearby.

The Section is also celebrating Engineer's Week with a Family Day Robot Workshop on Saturday February 24th. Please see our web site for complete details. Please take part in a fun day for you and your family.

As always, we are interested in elevating our Members to Senior Member status. This is an honor bestowed upon engineers who have at least ten years of experience. If you are interested, contact me after any meeting. It is a very simple process that starts with an updated resume. See you at Harris.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals are IEEE members who are new to our Section:

Harry Anderson	Jordan M. Foley	Glenn Saler
Marc A. Bell	Kimberly L. Giglia	Allison Shubert
Arun Bharathan	Richard Harrell	Amit U. Sinha
Greg Botos	C. W. Hibscher	Jose Maria Soto Montelio
Bryan J. Cooper	James H. Neilan	Wesley Strickland
Angan Das	Naga Chakrapani Pemmaraju	Thomas N. Taylor
Darrell Evans	Gokhan Sahin	Tommy V. Trimeloni

We wish to welcome these new members to the Cincinnati Section!!!

EE In The Movies - Telegrams

Submitted by Dick Reiman, Historian

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The telegraph flourished for more than a hundred years, producing hundreds of memorable telegraph messages. School children used to learn about Samuel Morse's 1844 "What hath God wrought" and about the Ems dispatch, the Kruger telegram, and the Zimmermann telegram (associated with the Franco-Prussian War, the Boer War, and World War I, respectively). Anyone studying Latin is still likely to be told of General Charles Napier's one-word telegram after annexing the province of Sind to British India: "Peccavi" (Latin for "I have sinned"). There is the famous exchange between George Bernard Shaw and Winston Churchill: "Am sending two tickets for first night. Bring friend if you have one." "Regret cannot come to first night. Will come to second night if you have one." The writer Robert Benchley, on assignment to Venice for the first time, telegraphed back to his editor, "Streets flooded. Please advise."

Telegrams have played important parts in countless movies. A crucial event in the Gene Kelly-Judy Garland movie "For Me and My Gal" (1942) is a telegraph clerk's error, turning 'Palace Newark' into 'Palace New York' (which meant that "playing the Palace" was not quite so prestigious). Also in that World War I movie is a telegram informing of a death in action. Noel Coward's "In Which We Serve" (1942) shows the painful task of delivering such telegrams in World War II, and "We Were Soldiers" (2002) shows the same thing for the Vietnam War (where the Western Union telegram was delivered by a taxi driver). Even outside of wartime, telegrams often meant the death of a relative. In "Funny Girl" (1968), the story of Fanny Brice, a Western Union man bicycles up a Lower East Side street, eliciting the comment "That's life for you - somebody's dead."

Though the telephone cut into the telegraph business, there were times when a record of the communication was needed, as with the police telegram in "Spellbound" (1945), or when a long-distance call was thought to be too expensive, as occurs in "Woman of the Year" (1942). Even after telegraph use fell off rapidly in mid-century, it continued to be used when a person was not reachable by telephone, as in "A Man and a Woman" (1966) or "North by Northwest" (1959), where, it is explained, an apartment has not yet been equipped with a phone.

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ECE & CS Graduate Students Association
In collaboration with
IEEE Student Branch & Eta Kappa Nu, Tau Chapter

Organizes

ECECS Poster Symposium
April 6th 2007, 11am - 5 p.m.

**4th Floor Engineering Research Center &
427 ERC Auditorium**

Highlights

- Graduate poster competition
- Under graduate poster exhibition
- Keynote address by distinguished guest
 - Talk by invited speaker
- Certificates to selected posters
 - Best poster awards

For more information:

Call 513-556-3025
or
Email: gsaadm@ececs.uc.edu

EE In The Movies - Telegrams
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Even if less expensive than a long-distance call, the cost of telegrams could still be an issue. In "It Happened One Night" (1932) and "Romance on the High Seas" (1948), a person short of cash sends a telegram collect. Western Union offered a special price for a message of up to ten words, and people often struggled to get a message down to ten words. If the message was shorter, people often felt they might as well use all ten words, as in "I love you. I love you. I love you. Regards." In "Cabaret" (1972) Sally Bowles (Liza Minnelli) receives a telegram from her father, who was more concerned, it appears, in saving some money than in consoling his daughter, as he was careful not to exceed the 10-word limit. In "The Odd Couple" (1968) Felix Unger sends a suicide telegram to his wife, and Oscar Madison comments, "Can you imagine getting a thing like that? She even had to tip the kid a quarter."

The telegraph practice of indicating the end of a sentence with the word 'stop' was often a source of humor, as in the Marx Brothers' movie "A Day at the Races" (1937) and in the Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers movie "The Gay Divorcee" (1934). In another Astaire-Rogers movie, "Top Hat" (1935), the foppish clothes designer Alberto Beddini reads aloud the following telegram to Dale Tremont (Ginger Rogers): "Come ahead. Stop. Stop being a sap. Stop. You can even bring Alberto. Stop. My husband is stopping at your hotel. Stop. When do you start. Stop." Alberto then says, "I can't understand who wrote this." Dale replies, "Sounds like Gertrude Stein."

As always, we would be grateful for reports from readers of other interesting movie scenes that involve telegrams. You may contact us at ieee-history@ieee.org.

Region-2 Student Activities Conference (SAC) to be held the weekend of April 14th, 2007

On the weekend of April 14th, the student branch of the IEEE at the University of Cincinnati will host this year's Region-2 Student Activities Conference (SAC). This is very exciting because the SAC is the biggest event in the region's budget each year and will draw much positive attention to the local IEEE and UC's departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. The purpose of this entirely student run conference is to promote ethics and leadership among future engineering and computing professionals. Between 150 and 200 motivated and bright students will take part in a leadership workshop and exercise their communication, ethics, research, and hardware design skills in various competitions. There is no cost to the students and advisors that attend; we provide lodging, food, and funds for travel. Monetary prizes will also be awarded to the top three teams in each competition. The conference will culminate in an awards banquet held in the Kingsgate Marriot's Grand Ballroom. During the banquet, there will be a keynote address focusing on ethics given by Scott Donnelly, CEO of GE Aviation.

Because of the size of this event, there are many opportunities for companies to gain exposure to outstanding students from the best universities in the region while supporting an extremely worthwhile event. Tax deductible sponsorship opportunities range from a spot on the sponsors page of the conference's website to a recruitment booth in a high traffic area during the competitions.

There is also a need for three experienced engineers to judge one of the competitions – the research paper presentation. During this competition, teams will make a five minute presentation based on undergraduate research papers they have submitted. The responsibility of the judges is to become familiar with all of the roughly 10 papers that will be submitted and to judge each team based on the quality of their paper and presentation. The presentations will take place in the afternoon on Saturday April 14th.

For this event to be a great success, the students coordinating this event need some help from local IEEE members and their employers. Anyone interested in the many sponsorship opportunities or in being a judge for the research paper competition, please contact the chairperson of UC's student branch of the IEEE, David Renz, at david.renz@gmail.com.

IEEE NEWS

THE LATEST ISSUE OF IEEE'S "THE INSTITUTE" IS NOW AVAILABLE AT

<http://www.ieee.org/theinstitute>

Included in this issue:

- Students Create Hands-on Electrical Engineering Course: During a late night study session, John Torous, chair of the IEEE student branch at the University of California at Berkeley, had an epiphany about creating a fun introductory electrical engineering course. Read about the "IEEE Hands-on Electronics" course his branch created at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5034/04824637>
- Renew Your Membership for 2007: There's still time to renew your 2007 membership if you haven't already done so. Remember, IEEE membership can connect you with professionals who can open doors to many opportunities. Use your IEEE Web Account and password to renew online at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5035/04824637>
- Former IEEE President Dies: 1974 IEEE President John Guarrera died on 7 December in El Cajon, Calif., at the age of 82. For more information, go to <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5036/04824637>
- Laptop Battery Standard Gets a Reboot: In June 2006, reports surfaced that laptop batteries from Sony Corp. were short-circuiting because of a misstep in the manufacturing process, and the company recalled them. To prevent such a recurrence the IEEE is making its laptop battery standard even more stringent. Read on at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5038/04824637>
- For the Electronic Cash Register, the Oscar Goes to Arnold Spielberg: The next time a cashier rings up your purchases, think of Arnold Spielberg. It's thanks to Spielberg's "sales recorder"--the first electronic cash register--that checkout is so easy and efficient. It's why the IEEE Computer Society honored Spielberg with its Computer Pioneer Award. Learn more at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5039/04824637>
- Virtual Realists to Meet in Person: The professional illusionists gathering in Charlotte, N.C., in March won't brandish wands or pull rabbits out of hats. But they will be dealing with the not-quite-real: virtual environments, augmented reality, and related technologies at the 15th IEEE Virtual Reality Conference,

sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society's Visualization and Graphics Technical Committee. To learn more, go to <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5040/04824637>

- Plain Talk on Electric Power: An Introductory Course: With a nontechnical audience in mind, the IEEE Power Engineering Society, in cooperation with the American Education Institute, is offering a sequence of three one-day courses that provide a quick technical education for the layperson. For more information, visit <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5042/04824637>
- Eight Honored With Education Awards: The IEEE Educational Activities Board recognized seven people and an IEEE Section at a ceremony held in November. For information on the recipients, check out <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5043/04824637>
- Call for 2007 Education Awards Nominations: The IEEE Educational Activities Board is seeking nominations for seven existing awards as well as a brand-new one to be given out in 2007. The deadline for nominations is 30 April. For descriptions of the awards, go to <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5044/04824637>
- Tech Insiders Webinar: RF Packaging Trends: On 15 February, industry experts will explain the latest methods for delivering systems-in-a-package at lower costs and with shorter lead times at the Tech Insider Webinar: RF Packaging Trends. New trends go well beyond conventional chips, using wireless and other consumer electronics applications. Ansoft is sponsoring the session. To sign up or to learn more, visit <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5046/04824637>
- Tell Us About Your Student Branch Event: The Institute wants to hear about interesting IEEE student branch events taking place this year. If your branch is holding a robotics competition, teaching youngsters about technology, holding a student congress, planning a plant tour, coordinating a career fair, or other event, send the details to institute@ieee.org
- IEEE Spectrum Radio Covers Detroit's International Auto Show: Hear IEEE Spectrum's automotive specialist, John Voelcker, give you the inside story on the North American International Auto Show, held earlier this month in Detroit. Tune in to his exclusive podcast at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/5047/04824637>

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